AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, after the title, please insert the heading:

--Background of the Invention--

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

This is a Continuation of Application No. 09/453,529 filed December 3, 1999, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Page 1, first full paragraph:

The present invention relates to a method for use in a telecommunication network by a data traffic policer ~~according to the preamble of claim 1~~, to a data traffic policer realizing such a method ~~according to the preamble of claim 4~~ and to a telecommunication network including such a data traffic policer ~~according to the preamble of claim 6~~.

Page 2, between lines 24 and 25, please insert the heading:

--Summary of the Invention--

Paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3:

~~According to the invention, this object is achieved by the method according to claim 1, by the data traffic policer which realizes such a method according to claim 4 and by the telecommunication network including such a data traffic policer according claim 6.~~

Page 4, the first full paragraph:

An implementation of the present invention is that in the event when the frame is still treated as conforming and upon reception of the predefined data cell of the frame which is determined by the last data cell of the frame, the frame is also declared by the status means as conforming when this last data cell has also a conformance result which is conforming. The transmitting means starts transmission of a predefined number of data cells that is determined by the total number of data cells of the frame. This means that a frame is declared to be conforming when all the data cells of a frame are conforming and only when the frame is declared to be conforming all its data cells are transmitted into the network. ~~This is described in claim 2.~~

Page 4, the second full paragraph:

Another characteristic feature of the present invention is that the conformance of the data cells is checked according to cell based conformance rules or according to frame based conformance rules. ~~This is described in claim 3.~~ Indeed, as it is described in the 98-0281 document, different options are possible for e.g. a Guaranteed Frame Rate GFR conformance definition. These options are taking into account cell related features such as the Cell Loss Priority bit, the Peak cell Rate and the Cell Delay Variation Tolerance, and also frame related features such as the Maximum Frame size. Furthermore, ~~as it is mentioned in motion 6 of this document,~~ more than one conformance test can be executed in order to complete the conformance check according to the present invention, whereby a predefined structure is brought into the sequence of the different conformance tests.

Page 5, the first full paragraph:

Finally, it has to be explained that a telecommunication network that includes a data traffic policer according to the present invention can support different kinds of Quality Of Service Categories whereby the conformance is checked according to the conformance definitions of the supported service category. Such a supported service category is e.g. the unspecified Bit Rate service category or the Guaranteed Frame Rate service category. ~~This is described in claim 7.~~

Page 5, between lines 20 and 21, please insert the heading:

--Brief Description of the Drawings--

Page 5, the fourth full paragraph:

The above and other objects and features of the invention will become more apparent and the invention itself will be best understood by referring to the following description of an embodiment taken in conjunction with the accompanying FIG. 1 ~~Figure~~ which illustrates a block diagram of a data traffic policer according to the present invention.

Page 5, between lines 25 and 26, please insert the heading:

--Detailed Description of the Invention--

Page 5, the fifth full paragraph:

Referring to FIG. 1, ~~the Figure~~ the working of the data traffic policer POL will be explained by means of a functional description of the blocks shown therein. Based on this description, implementation of the functional blocks will be obvious to a person skilled in the art and will therefore not be described in detail. In addition, the principle working of the data traffic policer regarding the invention will be described in further detail.

Page 6, the first full paragraph:

According to FIG. 1 ~~the Figure~~, the data traffic policer is coupled on a data communication link L of a telecommunication network. The data communication link L is coupled to an input IN and to an output OUT of the data traffic policer. The data traffic on the data communication link L includes data cells that are grouped into frames. FIG. 1 ~~The Figure~~ shows some data cells on the communication link L.

Page 7, the fifth full paragraph:

Furthermore the functional block of the buffer BUFF includes a transmitter to transmits the data cells of a particular frame to the output OUT of the data traffic policer POL upon reception of a third control signal CTRL3 from the status means STAT. This transmitter of the buffer BUFF is not shown in FIG. 1 ~~the Figure~~ in order not to overload FIG. 1 ~~the Figure~~. The third control signal CTRL3 will be further explained in a following paragraph.

Page 8, the first full paragraph:

The status means STAT keeps track of the conformance result for each data cell of each frame. In stead of e.g. storing for each data cell of each frame its conformance result it is preferred for this embodiment to work with only one parameter for each frame. Indeed, a frame is treated as conforming as long as for each data cell of the frame its conformance result is conforming. Once the conformance result for one data cell was not conforming the frame is not treated as being conforming anymore. This information is implemented with a non-conforming frame NCF parameter for each frame. Furthermore, together with the conformance result, also the position of the data cell in its frame and the reference of the frame, as described above, are included in the first control signal CTRL1 that is provided by the decision means DEC to the status means STAT. Upon reception of a first data cell of a frame, this non-conforming frame parameter is initialized to a value "false" F. As long that each conformance result of each received data cell of a particular frame is conforming this value "false" F will be kept. This means that each time that a data cell is checked upon its conformance and the conformance result is provided to the status means, the status means interprets the conformance result. The non-conforming frame NCF parameter of the associated frame is remained to the value "false" F when the conformance result is conforming and is changed to the value "true" T when the conformance result is non conforming. Referring to the status means STAT of FIG. 1 ~~the Figure~~, the status of the non conforming frame parameter is shown with a table: the first column of the table gives a reference to the different frames e.g. F1, F2, F3, ...; the second column of the table provides the value of the non conforming frame parameter NCF of the associated frame e.g. for frame F1 the NCF value is false which is shown with F and for frame F3 the NCF value is true which is shown with T. The table further includes a third column that will be explained in a further paragraph.

Page 9, the first full paragraph:

It has to be remarked that although this preferred embodiment is described with the inclusion of an "End Of Frame " indication in the first control signal CTRL1, the invention is not restricted to an application with such an inclusion. Indeed, the described embodiment can be adapted with small modification, evident to a person skilled in the art to explain the use of a data traffic policer with no explicit inclusion of the "End Of ~~Off~~ Frame" in such a first control signal CTRL1 e.g. in an ATM network the End Of Frame is part of the ATM cell i.e. AUU bit whereby the "End Of Frame" indication is extracted from the data cell itself in order to update the related parameter.

Paragraph bridging Pages 10 and 11:

Referring to FIG. 1 ~~the Figure~~, presume a situation whereby the buffer BUFF is filled with data cells according to ~~the~~ its associated frame. In this way for

- Frame F1 four data cells are buffered; and for
- Frame F2 ten data cells are buffered; and for
- Frame F3 six data cells are buffered.

On the other hand the table of the status means STAT includes the following information values for the parameters:

After the heading "ABSTRACT", please delete the title in its entirety.

Please delete the present Abstract of the Disclosure and replace it with the following new Abstract of the Disclosure.

The present invention concerns a method for use in a telecommunication network by a data traffic policer for data traffic policing on a data communication link. The data traffic includes data cells that are grouped into frames. For each data cell of a frame, upon reception of the data cell, the method checks a conformance of the data cell and provides a conformance result of the data cell being any one of conforming and non-conforming. The method further stores the data cell into a buffer and treats the frame as conforming in the event when for each data cell of the frame that is stored in the buffer the conformance result is conforming; and in the event when the frame is treated as conforming and upon reception of a predefined data cell of the frame, the method starts transmission of a predefined number of data cells of the frame by the traffic policer.